

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 30, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1-27 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 17, 18, and 25 have been amended. Claims 7, 8, 19-21, 24, and 26 have been withdrawn. Claims 5, 10, and 16 have been canceled. New claim 28 has been added. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Each of the Examiner's rejections is discussed below.

Allowed Claim

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 23 is allowed.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 has been objected to on the ground that the phrase "transverse chambers is is disposed..." at line 11 is incorrect.

Claim 1 has been amended above to correct this typographical error and is now believed to be in proper form. An indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 5 and is now believed to be in proper form for allowance, as is each claim that depends from claim 1, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time.

Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 16 and is now believed to be in proper form for allowance, as is each claim that depends from claim 9, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time.

Section 102 - Claims 25 and 27

Claims 25 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,728,055 to Sebastian ("Sebastian"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sebastian fails to disclose or make obvious a bladder having at least one longitudinal chamber, a plurality of transverse chambers, and a plurality of gaps, with each gap being disposed between adjacent transverse chambers and serving to space adjacent transverse chambers from one another, and having a longitudinal axis extending substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of each of the transverse apertures.

There are no gaps in the bladder of Sebastian between the chambers. Bladder 10 extends completely between each of the chambers. Accordingly, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Accordingly, all pending claims are believed to be in proper form for allowance, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time. Examination of withdrawn claims 7, 8, 19-21, and 24 is respectfully requested at this time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to **Deposit Account No. 19-0733**.

Respectfully submitted,

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